GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3974
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2017
GAIL Gas Pipeline Incidents
Puttaraju Shri C.S.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) has resumed the stalled pipeline work in many parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the GAIL proposes to take all precautions to prevent any untoward incident like the one happened last year in Andhra Pradesh from its pipeline; and
(c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by GAIL in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a): GAIL (India) Ltd. has resumed the pipeline work in June 2015 of Kochi-Koottanad-Mangalore-Bangalore pipeline in the State of Kerala. This pipeline is also passing through the State of Tamil Nadu and the pipeline laying work in Tamil Nadu is yet to start subject to availability of hindrance free RoU.
(b) & (c): Amongst the existing mechanism to prevent such incidents, the following steps have been initiated by GAIL:
i. Safety Audits are carried out by independent external agencies and internal multidisciplinary teams to find out gaps if any and the recommendations are complied with time bound manner.
ii. Well-equipped Fire protection and Safety measures have been set up across all GAIL Sites.
iii. Daily foot patrolling in populated/ urban centers and monthly foot patrolling of Lines at other locations to identify encroachments / suspicious activities, if any. Also, GPS based online tracking system for foot patrolling implemented.
iv. Security clearances have been obtained for patrolling/monitoring of RoU/RoW for operation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) for surveillance of Pipeline.
v. A Disaster Management Sub Group has been formed at Corporate Office, GAIL primarily to come together for mitigating the Crisis without any delay and taking all actions which are necessary arising out of the Crisis.
vi. A Centralized Integrity Management Group (CIMG) has been established to closely monitor & maintain comprehensive pipeline database and coordinate the integrity management of pipelines across the Country.
vii. Group SMS and voice telephony system have been implemented at all GAIL sites for faster communication during emergency.
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